



Borough of Warwick

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1963

BY

D. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts

Leamington Spa

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1964

38, HOLLY WALK,
LEAMINGTON SPA.

20th October, 1964.

TO THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF
WARWICK

Mr. MAYOR, LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to report to you upon the health of your district for 1963. The number of births again increased this year in accordance with the national trend ; figures for deaths showed a slight increase only. The population rose by over 300 head and only one quarter of these could be attributed to natural increase.

The Council has made substantial progress with its clearance programme for unfit housing. Of 571 houses cleared since 1945, 219 were taken during the period 1945-1959 and 352 (plus 40 temporary bungalows) during the five-year period from 1960. In the past year alone 98 houses were affected by demolition orders (73) or clearance orders (25). Arrangements were put in hand for a new clearance area comprising 33 houses in Lakin Road, Vine Lane and Paradise Street. Thus, when the ten year programme ends on 31st December, 1964, it is probable that you will have dealt with 824 out of the 898 properties which were scheduled for action during that period. Better progress indeed might have been made if new construction had not slackened in 1963.

An encouraging trend is also noted in the salvage of the older property in which the town abounds. In all 493 old houses have now been improved with the aid of improvement grants.

The average standard grant has been £72 and the average of discretionary grants reaches the high figure of £309 per property. This work has not only brought welcome modern amenities to many occupiers but has enabled many old but solidly built houses to enter into a new lease of life.

The Chief Public Health Inspector reports elsewhere that the staff has done less comprehensive house inspection than is necessary. He had lately had to answer more enquiries on behalf of prospective purchasers of property offered for sale. Inevitably these enquiries must be answered within a short period and this, together with the investiga-

tion of complaints, tends to push other, and perhaps more important, duties into the background. Likewise much time has to be devoted to clearing up the personal queries and anxieties which arise when individuals, whether householders or shopkeepers, learn that they will be affected by clearance or redevelopment proposals.

There have been no court proceedings in relation to Food Hygiene of the district; nevertheless attention has had to be given to unsatisfactory conditions in several food preparation rooms. There have also been the customary number of complaints regarding food which was not of the nature, quality or substance demanded by the purchaser. Letters of caution were sent to several traders whose products had contained foreign bodies.

With the growth of the economy there has come a corresponding increase in fuel consumption with consequent risks of added pollution of the air. The public is not yet fully aware of the magnitude of this as a social, economic and health problem having been lulled by much "cosy hearth" propaganda into a passive acceptance. Yet the evil of air pollution affects all citizens, young and old, and will not be beaten without the co-operation of all concerned. Mr. Bullock's report has a section on smoke abatement which shows that this Council is playing its part.

I have, once again, enjoyed much courtesy and kindness from the Council and wish to thank all its members for the interest shown. It is a pleasure also to thank my colleagues, especially Mr. Bullock and his staff, for the help which they have given to me at all times.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. LIVINGSTONE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Borough of Warwick.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	1963
Population (estimated) Mid-years	16,620
Area 5,057 acres	
Rateable Value	£805,611
Product of 1d. rate	£3,160
Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)	17.5
" " " " " (corrected)	18.2
Still Birth Rate—Rate per 1,000 total births	13.6
Death Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)	12.6
" " " " " (corrected)	13.0
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—	
All Infants per 1,000 live births	20.6
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	22.2
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	—
From Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child- birth	—

Population.—There was a gain of 320 in 1963. The excess of births over deaths was only 81. Much of the increase therefore came about by movement of new residents into your district.

Birth Rate.—This increased slightly.

Death Rate.—This was the same as in 1962.

Statistics for the past nine years and also for England and Wales in 1963 will be seen under Table II.

**PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE
BOROUGH OF WARWICK**

Medical Officer of Health :

D. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

K. D. YOUNG, O.B.E., B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., T.D.D.,
D.P.H. (resigned w.e.f. 5th November, 1963).

Senior Public Health Inspector :

J. BULLOCK,
 Cert. R.S.I. & S.I. Exam. Jt. Board.
 Cert. R.S.I. for Inspectors of Meat and Foods.
 Cert. Institute of Housing.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

S. H. WEST,
Cert. R.S.I. & S.I. Exam. Jt. Board.
Cert. R.S.I. for Inspectors of Meat and Foods.
Cert. R.S.I. for Smoke Inspectors.

Borough Engineer, Surveyor and Water Engineer :

C. E. BROWN, M.I.MUN.E.

Assistant Housing Inspector :

Mr. H. D. NASH.

Housing Assistant :

Mr. D. A. KENT.

Clerical Staff :

Mrs. O. M. JAMES ; Mrs. P. M. NEVILLE.

General Handyman and Rodent Operator :

Mr. T. FIELD.

Public Analysts :

BOSTOCK, HILL and RIGBY, Birmingham.

**LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES (WARWICKSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL)**

Infant Welfare Centres (as at June 30th, 1964) :

Cape Road C.W.C.	...	Mondays	2—4 p.m.
		Tuesdays	2—4 p.m.
		Fridays	2—4 p.m.

Local enquiries re Home Help, After-care, Health Visiting, Domiciliary Nursing and Midwifery Services to Area Health Office, 38, Holly Walk, Leamington Spa ('Phone 27284).

National Welfare Foods are on sale at Child Welfare Sessions or from :—

W. V.S. Office : 3, Jury Street, Warwick.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday	...	Afternoons
Thursday, Saturday	... ..	Mornings

Ambulance.—From the depot in Montague Road, Warwick, a 24-hour service is given to Warwick, Leamington, Kenilworth and district. Superintendent : Mr. Whiting (Tel. Warwick 42387).

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

I am indebted to Mr. C. E. Brown, the Borough Engineer, for much of the following information:—

Water Supply.—Responsibility for the water supplies in this district were transferred to the newly formed South Warwickshire Water Board as from April 1st. The usual satisfactory supply is continued. 16,570 persons living in 5,101 houses now enjoy a direct mains supply; there are still 17 houses occupied by 50 people which are served only by stand pipes.

Drainage and Sewerage.—Sewerage has functioned satisfactorily despite increase in flow due to new private and municipal developments. A programme of de-scaling has improved sewers where previously some overloading had been indicated.

Proposals have been formulated for the improvement of pumping arrangements in the Montague Road District.

Sewage Disposal.—Despite overloading the works have continued to operate efficiently.

Progress has been made in the design of the extension to the works to cope with the present and anticipated population increases.

Refuse Removal and Disposal.—A satisfactory collection has been maintained. During the year a bonus scheme was introduced for operatives. This has proved very successful and has been material in obtaining weekly collection.

Some difficulty is experienced with disposal at the Stratford Road Tip where the present area allocated is nearing the end of its life.

Rivers and Water Courses.—There has been no flooding in the district during the year.

Swimming Baths and Paddling Pool.—Weather conditions during the year were not conducive to heavy attendances at the Swimming Pool. Nevertheless the facility provided was appreciated by many bathers. The quality of the water has been of a high standard. The paddling pool has again proved popular with children. Increased attendances to the Park in general were noticeable.

D. HOUSING

Private development has increased considerably and large estates have now been developed in addition to individual sites.

The municipal redevelopment in both the East and West End has continued together with the final stages of the Percy Estate where the new shopping precinct has proved successful.

Little more need be said here because the subject has been treated fully by the Chief Public Health Inspector in his section of the report. The number of houses demolished or cleared as unfit topped the century mark. The Council has now got rid of most of its temporary war-time bungalows and has accomplished more than 90 per cent. of its ten year clearance programme due to end on 31st December, 1964. This might have been bettered but for the small number of new dwellings available in 1963. Continuing interest has been shown both in standard and discretionary improvement grants and this procedure is prolonging the useful life of many basically sound houses which lack modern amenities. You have modernised many of your older council houses and have also given practical encouragement to the preservation of the town's heritage of historic and beautiful buildings. This is not to say that all the buildings so scheduled have merits which are readily apparent. The number of 3.4 persons per household applied to the families (210 persons) rehoused in 1963.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 (SECTION 31)

Tuberculosis Milk Investigations.—Routine milk samples were taken by authorised offices of the County Council within the Borough and sent for biological examination in 1963. Results were obtained from samples taken as follows :—

<i>Designation of Milk</i>	<i>Total No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. Positive</i>
	1963	1963
Pasteurised	—	—
“ Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ”	—	—
“ Tuberculin Tested ”	15	—
Non-designated	—	—

This information has been given by courtesy of the County Medical Officer.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Incidence of Major Infectious Diseases since 1956.

		Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Enteric Fever	Pneumonia	Anterior Poliomyelitis	Dysentery
1956	...	—	14	5	1	9	—	12
1957	...	450	54	6	—	20	8	2
1958	...	13	1	12	—	9	1	6
1959	...	360	12	28	—	10	—	17
1960	...	10	33	13	—	5	—	9
1961	...	317	19	16	—	2	—	—
1962	...	14	3	1	—	3	—	15
1963	...	367	33	—	—	4	—	12

Reference to Table III will give the age distribution of the notifications for 1963.

It is usual to expect an epidemic of Measles among infants and young children every two years. One was due this year and was of average proportions. A vaccine has been developed against the measles virus but has not yet proved suitable for mass immunisation on account of the frequency of feverish reactions. A satisfactory product may however not be many years distant and will be welcomed by the majority of parents. Whooping Cough has not been entirely eliminated by mass vaccination but it is probably fair to state that the total incidence has been much reduced and that the severity of the disease is less when it occurs in vaccinated children.

Dysentery was once again a significant entry in the table and the cases were evenly spread among age groups up to 45 years. Perhaps much of the spread is within the family unit and control will therefore depend upon good standards of domestic hygiene.

Vaccination and Immunization.—It is no longer possible to give detailed figures of the various immunizations within your district as the records are now based upon the whole central area. There is, however, a satisfactorily high level of acceptance of these procedures and Smallpox vaccination was in great demand during the early months of 1963 owing to a Smallpox scare in the Midlands.

TUBERCULOSIS

Tuberculosis

B.C.G. Vaccination.—The County Scheme invites parents of children in their 13th year to allow them to undergo a skin sensitivity test, known as the Heaf Test. B.C.G. vaccine is then given only to those who do not show any reaction (negatives) ; positive reactors are not suitable for vaccination but may need investigation by a chest X-ray if the degree of reaction is very marked. If children are absent at the session when tests are read (usually seven days afterwards), it is not advisable to vaccinate them without repeating the Heaf Test procedure in case a natural infection may occur during the interval.

Number of children given Heaf Tests	...	302
,, ,, ,, vaccinated	... ...	224
,, ,, positive reactors	... ...	62
,, investigated by X-Rays	... ...	9

These figures relate to senior children attending Warwick Schools but not all these have residences within the borough.

(b) *Mass Radiography.*—A public survey was made in the town this year. Doctors also referred patients to the regular fixed session in Leamington Spa, upon the third Monday afternoon and evening of each month. The medical director of the Mass Radiography Unit has reported upon the public survey as follows :—

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE— ANNUAL REPORT, 1963

Dr. Gordon Evans, Medical Director of the Miniature Mass Radiography Unit, has submitted his Annual Report for the year 1963 in which he states that the number of persons examined resident in the Borough of Warwick was as follows :—

Organised Groups	... ... ...	4,251
General Public	... ... ...	1,097

Of these, one person was placed under close clinic supervision or treatment on account of suspected tuberculosis, making an incidence of only 0.23 per thousand persons examined.

As regards non-tuberculous abnormalities, fifteen persons were referred to clinic or hospital, and some further investigation was necessary in a total of fifty-three other cases.

Apart from the organised surveys, the Unit is stationed on one day each month at Leamington Spa where Warwick doctors may refer their patients. It is found that the incidence of tuberculosis among patients referred by general practitioners is much higher than that obtained by ordinary Public Surveys being of the order of some six cases per thousand examined. The number of Asians examined is relatively small, amounting to only 771 persons among whom five cases of active tuberculosis were detected .*

* The latter figures are, of course, not for the Borough of Warwick but for the whole area covered by the Unit and the discovery rate per thousand examined amounted to 4.86 in the case of Indians and 16.39 in the case of Pakistanis.

These percentage figures relate to a small body of persons examined.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1968

Age Periods	New Cases				Transfers into District				Deaths			
	Pul-monary		Non-Pul.		Pul-monary		Non-Pul.		Pul-monary		Non-Pul.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	4	1	2	—	4	2	—	—	1	—	—	—

Tuberculosis.—The following table gives the incidence of Tuberculosis for the period 1943-1963—

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
Cases ...	11	38	29	20	31	20	20
Deaths ...	13	11	12	9	8	14	6
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Cases ...	21	22	32	40	24	28	23
Deaths ...	6	8	1	3	3	5	3
	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Cases ...	27	20	22	11	5	5	7
Deaths ...	1	—	—	1	2	2	1

6 patients were admitted to Sanatorium and 8 patients discharged during the year. There is no delay in admission to hospital. The annual death rate is now much lower than the average figure some twenty years ago.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47 of this Act provides that where persons—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease, or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated are living in insanitary conditions and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, and the Medical Officer of Health gives a written certificate in the prescribed form, the local authority may apply to a court, having jurisdiction, for an order to remove the person to a suitable and convenient place, e.g. hospital. Seven days clear notice must be given to the person concerned of the intended application and it must also be given to the person managing the premises or institution. The order, if granted, may authorize a person's detention for a period not exceeding three months at the place specified in the Court's order.

Action was necessary in regard to two persons.

Case 1. Mr. D— C—. This old man had been living alone for many years and had been under observation by the health and welfare departments for much of that time. Latterly he had become very frail and depended much upon the Home Help service. Owing to a chest infection his health deteriorated seriously but he refused to leave home. At the request of his doctor he was brought to the notice of a magistrate with a joint certificate of his doctor and the Deputy M.O.H. that he was a person in need of urgent care and attention. An order was made for his removal to Shipston House early in October 1963 and he was still under treatment there at the year's end.

Case 2. Miss S. E. L— (aged 85 years). This old lady resided in a local almshouse. She was an intelligent and determined woman who had begun to fail physically. Complaints arose because of her dangerous handling of coal fires and oil stoves. She kept her person clean but allowed clothing and bed linen to stay filthy. New blankets were obtained for her but she left them in their wrappings throughout a severe winter. Much persuasion was needed before the Health Visitor could induce her to apply for National Assistance. Little improvement could be secured in her living conditions and she refused to move into a home. Indeed it would have been almost impossible to integrate her into communal life. Eventually she became seriously ill and was removed to hospital. It was necessary to use the provisions of Section 84 of the Public Health Act 1936 in order to destroy clothing, bedding and household effects, which were likely to injure health and were beyond disinfection.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Council of the Borough of Warwick

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting a report covering the activities of my department for the year ended 31st December, 1963.

HOUSING

SLUM CLEARANCE,

The following summary shows the progress made since 1945 in clearing unfit houses :—

<i>Houses demolished</i>		<i>From 1945 to 1959 (inc.)</i>	1960	1961	1962	1963	<i>Total</i>
Individual Demolition							
Orders	...	149	18	59	62	73	361
In Clearance Areas	...	70	20	62	33	25	210
		219	38	121	95	98	571

In addition to the above, 40 temporary bungalows, built immediately after the War and intended to have a life of 10 years, have been demolished. Thirteen of these were demolished in 1963 ; eight temporary bungalows were still occupied at the end of the year and another two were vacated but are awaiting demolition. The useful life of the remaining bungalows is fast coming to an end and they should be vacated as quickly as rehousing possibilities permit.

STATUTORY ACTION UNDER THE HOUSING ACT DURING THE YEAR

Sixty-three houses were represented for action under the demolition order provisions for individual unfit houses. In respect of these, 38 demolition orders were made, and decisions in respect of the remainder were awaited at the end of the year.

In addition, 3 demolition orders were made on houses represented in the previous year.

Thirty-three houses in Lakin Road, Paradise Street and Vine Lane were represented towards the end of the year for action under the Clearance Order provisions.

PROGRESS UNDER THE 1955 SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME

Details of the programme approved by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in 1955 have been given in previous reports. It is sufficient to point out that it provided for the demolition of 898 houses in the ten-year period ending 31st December, 1964.

Progress at the end of 1963 was as follows :—

Houses demolished during 1963 including 13 pre-fab bungalows	...	...	111
Houses demolished since inception of programme, including 40 pre-fab bungalows	...	...	533
Houses vacated and awaiting demolition at the end of the year	...	...	125
Houses already subject to orders (operative demolition orders, confirmed clearance and compulsory purchase orders, or undertakings to demolish) but still occupied	...	...	129
Houses acquired by Council, patched up and retained for occupation for a few more years	...	...	37
			<hr/> 824 <hr/>

It will be seen that out of the original programme of 898 houses, the statutory stages for demolition had been taken in respect of 824, though 166 were still occupied at the end of the year.

To complete the programme it was necessary to take statutory action in respect of approximately another 80 houses, to rehouse the occupiers from these as well as the 166 referred to in the above table.

The high number of houses vacated and awaiting demolition was due in most cases to a single tenant or a couple having been left in an otherwise empty row due to the fact that no small dwellings were available, thus preventing the demolition of the row.

As was anticipated last year, little progress could be made in reducing the number of occupied unfit dwellings due to the inadequacy of new dwellings built for the purpose during 1963. Fortunately, a number of casual vacancies in existing municipal houses helped and it proved possible to re-house 39 families from condemned property. The building programme for 1964 should improve the position materially.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS AND LOANS

Improvement grants for the provision of additional amenities to bring older houses in the town up to modern standards continued to be made. Applications not only cover the provision of bathrooms, internal sanitation, hot water facilities and food storage accommodation, but also include the remedying of dampness, replacement of old-fashioned fireplaces and improved cooking facilities.

During 1963, 66 properties were considered for improvement or conversion and were formally approved for improvement grants. Of these, 8 were tenanted houses and 58 were owner-occupied. In the year, 52 dwellings were modernised or converted with the aid of grants as compared to 43 in 1962. At the end of 1963, work at 62 properties was still in progress.

Applications for loans to cover the applicants' share of the cost of the improvements and to cover the cost of repairs are still being received and the Council's continued policy in assisting owners by making such loans is very helpful. Applications for loans for repairs, where no grant is possible, continued to be received and again, favourable consideration by the Council resulted in repair work being undertaken which otherwise may only have been carried out under compulsion. The carrying out of work in default is an unfortunate procedure to follow when an owner is anxious to carry out repairs but is hard pressed for the capital needed.

Many owners have expressed their appreciation of the help received from members of my staff, especially in informal discussions which invariably take place before applications are made for grants and/or loans.

The average Standard Improvement Grant for the past year was £72 6s. 0d. while the average for discretionary grants was approximately £309 per unit provided.

It is gratifying to report that 493 old houses have been modernised since the beginning of the grants scheme. Judged on a population basis this is of course by far the best achievement of the local authorities in Warwickshire and must be among the highest in the country, not only is the total figure high, but the average grant is high and the majority are of the discretionary kind involving improvements of an extensive nature.

The scope of this undertaking can best be judged when it is compared with a council house estate. The Forbes Estate contains about the same number of houses as those now modernised in the old streets of our town. The modernising of these houses, many of them saved from demolition orders of the next few decades, has made a most valuable contribution towards solving the town's housing problems ; most of them are now good for occupation indefinitely and certainly far beyond the minimum " life " expected of a house if it is to qualify for a grant.

Figures given above do not include improvement work on older council houses, many of which have now received attention. Under provisions similar to those applying to private owners, the work of modernising sub-standard municipal houses continued, 38 being completed during the year. This brings the total of municipal houses modernised since the inception of the scheme up to 233.

The work at Lord Leycester Hospital continued to make good progress and proposals have been considered for extensions to the original scheme. The total number of units of accommodation now to be provided is 14. It has been necessary to consider increases in the costs for the work being carried out and as a result, somewhat protracted negotiations are taking place with the architect and the Ministry concerned. An increase in the total cost of the conversion work at St. Edith's Hostel, All Saints, also called for further consideration but as a result, the Ministry approved the increased amount for loan purposes.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (HISTORIC BUILDINGS) ACT, 1962

During 1963, four applications were considered for grants and/or loans under the provisions of this Act, towards the cost of repairs or alterations of buildings included on the list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest. The buildings concerned included a hotel, a shop and two houses, one of which dates from the Elizabethan era. In two instances, the applications were refused. In one case, a loan was made at a rate of interest below that normally charged by the Council under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act for loans for the purchase or repair of houses. In the other instance, the application was approved in principle, details of actual cost involved being awaited at the end of the year.

HOUSING INSPECTIONS AND REPAIRS

The objects of house-to-house inspections have been dealt with in earlier reports. It is regretted that the time available for these comprehensive inspections is quite inadequate, but, with the existing demands on the building trade, it is doubtful if a flood of comprehensive repairs notices would produce a greater volume of repairs than obtains at present, particularly in view of the amount of labour engaged on grant aided work.

In all 289 houses have now been inspected comprehensively in recent years, 27 being inspected in 1963. Out of the 289, 37 have been modernised with the aid of grants and thoroughly repaired, in 9 cases improvements approved for grant purposes are in progress, in 12 other cases grants have been approved but work had not been commenced at the end of the year, 94 houses have been substantially repaired but additional amenities not provided, and 52 houses have been partly repaired.

The Department has had to deal with an increasing number of official enquiries made at the time a house is offered for sale. In every case where the house needs repair the opportunity is taken to acquaint the enquirer of repairs necessary. The volume of this work has increased enormously in recent years and much future trouble has I believe been avoided by advising prospective purchasers of repairs required.

MUNICIPAL HOUSING

The following summary shows in respect of 1963 (a) new houses built by the authority, (b) families rehoused and (c) municipal dwellings owned by the local authority :—

New houses built	...	...	...	22
Families rehoused	...	...	...	61
Houses owned by the local authority (not including unfit houses acquired for demolition)	...	...		1,772
Percentage of houses owned to total houses in Borough	...	...	...	33%
Vacancies occurring in existing houses				39
Of the families rehoused there were :—				
From " rooms "	...	...	...	7
From poor and/or over crowded houses not subject to Housing Act Orders				20
From houses subject to demolition orders or closing orders or from Clearance Areas	...	...	...	34
Population rehoused	...	...	...	210
				(or 3.4 per family)
Families from serious medical considerations				6

Included in the above are 3 cases where the occupiers were old age pensioners, either as couples or living alone (not including old age pensioners rehoused from condemned property).

To promote the fullest use of municipal accommodation 25 exchanges were arranged.

In the 18 years since the end of 1945, 1,519 families, comprising 5,454 persons have been rehoused, but during the same period there have been 2,457 applications, 93 of these being registered during 1963.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

One-thousand-three-hundred-and-thirty-eight inspections were made for the purposes of the Public Health Act. As in previous years most of the 214 notices issued under the Public Health Act related to dwellinghouse defects of a general nature and were limited to urgent matters. In 24 cases it was necessary to serve statutory notices. Two disinfestations were carried out during the year.

DRAINAGE, SANITARY ACCOMMODATION, WASHING ACCOMMODATION AND REFUSE RECEPTACLES

During the period 20 notices requiring choked drains to be cleared or defective drains to be repaired were complied with ; 30 notices requiring repairs to water closets received attention ; 106 dustbins were provided and 20 accumulations of refuse were removed.

VERMIN INFESTATION

Rats and Mice.—Systematic investigations to ascertain infestations were continued during the year. The department dealt with infestations, principally of a minor character, as follows :—

Dwellingshouses	...	...	...	...	62
Factories and offices	...	...	...	...	24
Shops	...	...	...	...	1
Schools	...	...	...	...	3
Houses and cafes	...	...	...	...	1
Clubs and licensed premises	...	...	...	...	1
Allotments and plots of land	...	...	...	...	118
Streams	...	...	...	...	40

In addition during the year regular visits were made to hospitals in the Borough, and the Council's refuse tip and sewage disposal works were also treated regularly. Nine block treatments were carried out.

The town's sewers were inspected and treated against rats. Although unpoisoned baits were laid in 39 manholes, bait was only taken in 5. In these 5, poison bait was subsequently laid to complete the treatments.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

The daily measurement of smoke and acid in the atmosphere was continued throughout the year, as was also the measurement of deposits and sulphur on a monthly basis. The results are submitted to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for inclusion in the national survey, a summary of which is published monthly. Comparisons with other towns are difficult to make without knowing the position of the instruments used and any purely local pollution affecting the results, but a study of the Warwick results as would be expected shows a clean atmosphere compared with larger industrial towns. As far as Warwickshire is concerned, the results are about average. This again, is as expected, as although there is obvious pollution in the built-up area, the elongated nature of this area, with rural land

around so much of it causes quick dispersal of smoke and the insidious sulphur attending it whatever the wind direction. The major exception to this is High Street, Jury Street and Smith Street where the daily deposit of atmospheric filth does not need measuring scientifically, it can be seen and smelt. This arises, of course, mainly from motor vehicle exhausts which when added to the general level of domestic and industrial pollution produces almost intolerable conditions when wind velocity is low.

Routine inspections and observations for the purposes of the Clean Air Act were made throughout the year. All the larger steam raising plants in the Borough are now either oil-fired or fired mechanically if still using solid fuel. The plant at Warwick Hospital is still the exception to this and still offends with emissions of black smoke from time to time.

The plant at a laundry was converted from solid fuel to oil-firing during the year; conditions at another laundry called for investigations of boiler plant operation which were continuing at the end of the year.

Emissions from other types of industrial chimneys continued to receive close observation. Plans for the reconstruction of the cupola plant at the large foundry in the town which has been the subject of many reports in the past were finally approved by all the authorities concerned and at the end of the year an order had been placed for equipment designed to remove the grit from the cupola gases.

Prior approval to new plants satisfying the provisions of the Clean Air Act was given in six cases, viz.: heating systems for a church, for an hotel, for a factory, for a school, for an office, and for a public building.

Failure of a heating engineer to notify the installation of one of the larger models of domestic boiler was ultimately dealt with by issuing a caution; in this case the importance of notification for inspection was demonstrated inasmuch as the flue was constructed of such poor material as to be leaking within a few feet of the ground three months after being installed.

The Percy Estate Smoke Control Order was again observed by the majority of householders, but as there were instances of bituminous coal being delivered and burnt, a circular was addressed to all householders within the Control Area, and another to coal merchants, stressing that only smokeless fuel could be used on the Percy Estate.

Smoke Control Orders in respect of Lodgewood Estate and St. John's flats had not been confirmed at the end of the year.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AT PUBLIC HOUSES AND PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

The sanitary accommodation at licensed premises generally was found to be of good standard and well maintained. At 14 licensed premises the accommodation was improved after representations to the owners concerned.

CARAVANS AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

A total of 30 inspections during the year was made for the purposes of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. At the end of 1963 seven licenses permitting the stationing of caravans were in operation in the Borough.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

During the year covered by the report additional sanitary accommodation was provided at three factories, and the existing accommodation was improved at 5 factories. At the end of 1963 the register included 120 factories, 82 having mechanical power and 38 without mechanical power.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Regular inspections are made of the one premises registered in the Borough.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Inspections and reinspections of shops continued during 1963. The following improvements were made: Sanitary accommodation improved at 12 shops; improved washing facilities at 12 shops; improved ventilation at 9 shops; structural improvements at 11 shops.

At the end of 1963 certificates of exemption to provide sanitary accommodation were in operation in respect of five shops.

TERMINAL DISINFECTION

A total of 12 investigations were made following notifications of infectious disease.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

The following make up the current registers for 1963 :—

Milk Distributors	...	...	...	16
Dairies other than farms	...	...	...	3

INSPECTION OF FOOD AT RETAILERS' SHOPS

Visits made to food shops during the year under review were : 327 to retail shops : 110 to premises used for food preparation ; 28 to ice-cream premises and vehicles ; 2 to dairies ; 7 to bake-houses ; 16 to hotels and restaurants ; 13 to schools ; and 29 to market stalls.

During the period of the Royal Show assistance was given to Warwick Rural District Council in the inspection of food premises.

Regular visits as far as practicable had been made of all premises in the town concerned with the manufacture, preparation, storage or sale of food.

It was found necessary to draw the attention of the Management of one of the principal hotels in the town to the unsatisfactory condition of the kitchens and food preparation rooms.

Ice cream vans, market stalls, the Mop and Racecourse again received regular inspections.

Letters of caution were sent to two greengrocers who had on display unsound tomatoes and bananas for sale at reduced prices.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926

Again, as found necessary, shops were visited during the year in connection with the Merchandise Marks Act 1926, and Orders made thereunder, concerning correct labelling of foods displayed for sale.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933 SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1954

Seven licences to slaughter or stun animals were granted during 1963.

RENT ACT, 1957

During the year, 13 inspections were made for the purposes of the Act. Two Certificates of Disrepair previously

served were cancelled. Two Certificates as to Remedying of Defects were granted. One application for cancellation of a Certificate of Disrepair was refused.

WATER SAMPLING

Samples of water were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service during 1963, as follows :—

<i>Public water supply from</i>	B	C
Paddling Pool, St. Nicholas Park ...	3	—
Swimming Baths, St. Nicholas Park	5	2
Swimming Pool, Warwick School ...	1	—
Houses in the Borough	24	2

B—submitted for bacteriological examination.

C—submitted for chemical analysis.

The results of samples of the public water supply shewed that water as delivered at the taps in the town was safe and of good quality.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

A warning letter was sent by the Town Clerk on the instructions of the Council to a firm contravening Section 9 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, following the sale of a bottle of soft drink containing particles of glass.

Letters of caution were sent by the Town Clerk also on the instructions of the Council to various firms contravening Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, following the sale of a bottle of milk containing a large leaf in one instance, the sale of frozen fish fingers containing a piece of paper in another instance and the sale of sugar confectionery containing small stones in a further instance.

CONCLUSION

I again wish to thank the Council for their ready co-operation in seeking to raise the standard of environmental health conditions in the town. My thanks are also due to Chief Officers of other departments for helpful co-operation and to members of my staff for good work during the year.

Your obedient servant,

J. BULLOCK,

Chief Public Health Inspector, Borough of Warwick.

TABLE I

BOROUGH OF WARWICK

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT DURING 1963

	<i>Inspections and observations made</i>		<i>Notices served</i>		<i>Nuisances abated after notice</i>
	1963	Statutory 1963	Informal 1963	1963	
Dwellinghouses and Schools	281
Lodging Houses	—	—
Factories	8	15
Licensed Premises	14	6
Canal Boats	—	—
Water Closets	25	30
Drainage	28	32
Water Supply	6	10
Places of Entertainment	4	5
Caravans	3	5
Dustbins	113	106
Deposits of Refuse	5	20
Pigsties	—	1
Vermín Infestations	5	2
Shops	40	25
Animals Improperly Kept	2	1
Smoke Nuisances	1	2
Dairies and Milk Shops	1	2
Bakehouses	1	—
Slaughterhouses, Butchers' and Other Retail Food Shops	2	10
Occasional Slaughter on Private Premises	—	—
Premises used for Food Preparation	25	8
Ice-cream Premises and Vehicles	3	1
Miscellaneous Nuisances	24	7
Hotels	11	3
Rent Act	—	2
	5,121	58	676	1963	574
	TOTALS				
Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food	8
Samples of Milk taken for bacteriological examination	—
Samples of Water taken	37
Lots of Infected Bedding, Disinfected or Destroyed	2
Houses Disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease	2
Houses Disinfested for Vermín	8
Improvement Grant Visits	432

TABLE II.
BOROUGH OF WARWICK

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1963
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Crude Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1954	15,620	252	16.1	8	31.7	160	10.2
1955	15,670	220	14.0	6	22.2	175	11.2
1956	15,690	245	15.1	2	8.4	153	9.8
1957	15,810	200	12.5	—	20.3	174	11.0
1958	15,900	223	13.5	2	9.3	161	10.1
1959	15,870	210	13.2	5	23.8	195	12.3
1960	16,010	223	13.9	4	18.0	162	10.1
1961	16,140	261	16.1	5	19.2	196	12.1
1962	16,300	280	17.2	5	17.8	205	12.6
1963	16,620	291	17.5	6	20.6	210	12.6

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1963.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1963.

(Provisional Figures)

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

			Live Births.	Still Births per 1,000 Births.	Deaths.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births
England and Wales	..	...	18.2	17.2	12.2	21.1

TABLE III.

BOROUGH OF WARWICK

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING
THE YEAR 1963.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Plague ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup) ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Erysipelas ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Scarlet Fever ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Typhus Fever ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enteric Fever ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Typhoid Fever ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pneumonia	4	.....	1	.....	.....	2	1	.....	.....
Malaria ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dysentery	12	1	3	4	2	2	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis) ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whooping Cough	33	7	18	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Measles	366	88	105	171	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	2	.....	.....
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Food Poisoning ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals	424	96	128	183	4	10	3	—	—

TABLE IV.
BOROUGH OF WARWICK
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1963.

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES
1 Tuberculosis respiratory	1	—
2 Tuberculosis other	—	—
3 Syphilitic disease	—	—
4 Diphtheria	—	—
5 Whooping cough	—	—
6 Meningococcal infections	—	—
7 Acute poliomyelitis	—	—
8 Measles	—	—
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	1	—
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	—
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	8	1
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	5
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	3
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neo- plasms	3	17
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—
16 Diabetes	—	—
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	9	12
18 Coronary disease, angina	31	17
19 Hypertension with heart disease ...	4	1
20 Other heart disease	8	14
21 Other circulatory disease	6	8
22 Influenza	—	—
23 Pneumonia	11	7
24 Bronchitis	7	2
25 Other disease of respiratory system ...	2	—
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	1
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	—
28 Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—
29 Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—
31 Congenital malformations	1	1
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	7	11
33 Motor vehicle accidents	4	1
34 All other accidents	—	3
35 Suicide	—	—
36 Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—
All Causes	106	104

